

Message Text

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73

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-12 ADP-00

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OIC-04 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 AID-20 AEC-11 TRSE-00

OMB-01 ABF-01 RSR-01 /163 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5063

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU, XM

SUBJECT: ICFTU WILL HOLD A KEY COMMITTEE MEETING IN MEXICO

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1. BEGIN SUMMARY. IN A MEETING WITH BRUSSELS- BASED LABOR ATTACHES, ICFTU GENERAL SECRETARY OTTO KERSTEN DISCUSSED THE FORTHCOMING MEETING OF THE ICFTU' S FINANCE AND GENERAL PRUPOSES COMMITTEE IN CUERNAVACA, MEXICO, APRIL 26-27. THE ICFTU' S TOP LEADERSHIP WILL PARTICIPATE AND WILL DECIDE A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING THE STATUS OF THE ICFTU' S INTER- AMERICAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION. END SUMMARY.

2. ICFTU FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING. KERSTEN SAID THAT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE DGB' S VETTER - WHO WILL SEND A SUBSTITUTE -- ALL OF THE OTHER KEY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL GO TO CUERNAVACA. (THIS INCLUDES FEATHER - BRITISH TUC, STORTI - ITALIAN CISL, DEBUNNE - BELGIAN FGTB, SHIOJI - JAPANESE DOMEI, MACDONALD - ICFTU PRESENDET, KERSTEN AND THE THREE ICFTU REGIONAL SECRETARIES FROM AFRICA, ASIAN, AND LATIN AMERICA.) IN ADDITION, MOST OF THE LEADERS OF THE ICFTU' S INTER- AMERICAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION (ORIT), WHICH IS HOLDING ITS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 23-24, ARE EXPECTED TO MEET WITH THE COMMITTEE. KERSTEN NOTED THAT THE LATIN AMERICAN VENUE FOR THE MEETING OF THE ICFTU' S MOST IMPORTANT COMMITTEE WAS IN RECOGNITION OF THE GROWING MUTUAL INTEREST BETWEEN EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA, AND ALSO A REACTION TO THE INTENSIFICATION OF WFTU ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

3. HE SAID THAT A MAJOR ISSUE TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE COMMITTEE WILL BE THE FUTURE OF ORIT, ITS STRUCTURE, ITS BUDGET AND FISCAL POLICIES. (ANOTHER ICFTU STAFF OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT HE EXPECTS THE ICFTU LEADER- SHIP ALSO TO REVIEW THE AFL- CIO' S RELATIONSHIP WITH ORIT, BUT KERSTEN INDICATED TO US THAT HE FORESAW LITTLE CHANGE IN THE STATUS QUO IN THIS RESPECT. NONETHELESS, KERSTEN REMARKED, HALF- JOCULARLY, THAT THE AFL- CIO' S PARTICIPATION IN ORIT WAS " UNCONSTITUTIONAL" SINCE IT IS NO LONGER AN AFFILIATE OF THE PARENT BODY. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT " THE AMERICANS MAY HAVE TO PAY EXTRA FUNDS" TO COVER ORIT' S DEFICITS, IMPLYING THAT THE ORIT WILL HAVE TO RAISE ITS DUES.) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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4. THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, KERSTEN NOTED, HAS A VERY FULL AGENDA (WE ARE POUCHING A COPY TO THE DEPARTMENT WITH OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS). THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS INTER ALIA A VIETNAM REHABILITATION PROGRAM, THE PROPOSED ICFTU DELEGATION TO ISRAEL, ATTEMPTS TO SET UP AN IBERO- LATIN AMERICAN TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION, AND A VARIETY OF ICFTU ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN LEBANON, TURKEY, GREECE AND NIGERIA (WHERE THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO GRANT THE NIGERIAN ULC \$22,840 FOR ORGANIZING WORK). THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE TRADE UNION SITUATION IN AFRICA, A TRADE UNION CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID, FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS, AND OTHER ISSUES.

5. THE COMMITTEE WILL, OF COURSE, ALSO EXAMINE ITS OWN FINANCIAL SITUATION AND PREPARE A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1973 FOR APPROVAL BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. IT WILL ALSO FORMULATE PLANS FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD, SCHEDULED FOR JULY 4-7 IN VIENNA. (KERSTEN SAID THAT THE ICFTU' S FINANCIAL SITUATION IS " GOOD", WITH INCOME " A BIT OVER EXPENSES." ANOTHER ICFTU STAFF OFFICIAL TOLD US, HOWEVER, THAT THE ICFTU IS STAYING IN THE BLACK " BECAUSE IT IS NOT DOING VERY MUCH" AND, IN AT LEAST ONE CASE HE CITED, INDONESIA, HAS NOT IMPLEMENTED A PROGRAM FOR WHICH FUNDS HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY ALLOCATED.)
DECON AFTER APRIL 13, 1974.
GREENWALD

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